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NEWS RELEASE

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THREE KANSAS LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES RECEIVE COPS HOMELAND SECURITY OVERTIME PROGRAM GRANTS

WICHITA, Kan. -- United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced today that **the United States Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) has awarded \$16,994 to the Arkansas City Police Department, \$162,747 to the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department, and \$69,960 to the Riley County Sheriff's Department in the first round of grants under the Homeland Security Overtime Program.** Funding under these grants help law enforcement agencies pay for overtime costs that are related to homeland security and other crime fighting activities. These grants were part of \$59.5 million in Homeland Security Overtime Program grants awarded to 294 law enforcement agencies in 50 states.

The grants will supplement locally funded officer overtime budgets for one year, and will cover up to 75 percent of the total projected overtime costs for homeland security training, increased homeland security patrols, and other activities related to the prevention of violent or drug related crimes. A 25 percent local cash match is required.

The Homeland Security Overtime Program is a new grant program that was established in response to the ongoing threat of terrorism and the critical role that state and local law enforcement agencies play in preventing and responding to terrorism.

Since 1995, COPS has provided more than 6.9 billion to nearly 13,000 state and local law enforcement agencies to hire over 118,000 officers, deputies, and troopers. COPS also provides law enforcement agencies with an array of community policing training and technical assistance resources.

For additional information on this and other COPS programs, visit <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov>.